

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: MARCH 1966
TAG REVIEW DATE: 4 FEBRUARY 1997**

1. SITE NAME: ROSWELL PRACTICE BOMBING RANGE NO. 7

SITE NUMBER: K06NM051001

LOCATION:

CITY: Roswell
COUNTY: Chaves
STATE: New Mexico

PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM051001

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC's:

GEO DIST POC:

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ASR TAG REVIEW POC:

NAME: C. Fredrick Girard
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3. SITE DESCRIPTION:

a. The former Roswell Practice Bombing Range No. 7 was located approximately 21 miles northeast of the town of

Roswell in Chaves County, New Mexico. Total site acreage, consisted of 640 acres of flat to gently rolling grassland bearing moderate concentrations of numerous vegetation species, was obtained by transfer documentation from the Department of Interior and a grazing leaseholder.

b. The subject site is in the general area of various state and federal endangered/threatened species. While none are specifically identified within the site, any of these may occur.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. On 15 July 1942, the War Department, by virtue of the authority vested in the President and Executive Order No. 9146, acquired the necessary lands for the bombing ranges at Roswell. 640 acres of land, under federal ownership, were acquired for Roswell PBR #7, and all existing grazing leases were terminated for the duration.

b. This range was one of numerous ranges established by RAAF to train bombardiers with the Norden bomb sights for the war effort. A main target was constructed and used for practice bombing, having a built-up earthen dyke/berm in the shape of a reverse swastika, approximately 1,000 feet in length. Combat targets of a non-permanent nature were also constructed. The main target berm contained a generator powered night lighting system for night bombing. Native caliche rock, whitewash, or lime was applied to all the targets for better night bombing visibility. Practice bombs of the M38A2 and the MK15MOD2 or MOD4 100 pound sand filled varieties were the sole form of ordnance dropped on this range. These incorporated 3 pound black powder spotting charges or pyrotechnic spotting charges, respectively.

c. The closing of the bombardier school at RAAF occurred in December 1944. Then, on 18 June 1945, the Roswell Practice Bombing Range No. 7 was declared surplus.

d. Transfer of the property back to the Department of Interior and grazing lessor was completed on 1 August 1947.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Area A: Size, Acres:	154.70
Former Use:	Target Area
Present Usage:	Grazing Land

Probable End Usage: Same as Above
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed
Type: Bomb, 100 lb. Practice,
M38A2, w/Spotting Charge, M1A1
Bomb, 100 lb. Practice, MK15
MOD4, w/Spotting Charge

Area B: Size, Acres: 359.90
Former Use: Buffer Zone
Present Use: Grazing Land
Probable End Use: Same as Above
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: Same as Area A

Area C: Size, Acres: 171.70
Former Use: Buffer Zone (Additional Lands)
Present Use: Grazing Land
Probable End Use: Same as Above
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Type: Same as Area A

Area D: Size (Acres): 125.40
Former Use: All Other Lands
Present Use: Grazing Land
Probable End Use: Same as Above
Ordnance Presence: None

6. CURRENT STATUS: The draft Archives Search Report for Roswell Practice Bombing Range No.7 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in March of 1996.

7. STRATEGY:

Area A: EE/CA
Area B: EE/CA
Area C: EE/CA
Area D: NOFA

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The TAG has determined that an EE/CA will be performed in Area A and Area B since there was confirmed/potential debris from M38 and MK15-series 100 pound practice bombs encountered by the SI Team during their inspection of these areas. Area C will also receive an EE/CA if these additional lands are included in a modified INPR. NOFA is required for Area D.

b. Several threatened and endangered species of wildlife may occur on site. Several species of poisonous snakes and arachnids frequent/reside on site, appropriate protective measures should be considered. Four wheel drive vehicles may be

required for site access due to the condition of several unimproved access roads. Emergency medical response coordination for remote Chaves County site locations is required through the County Sheriff prior to the dispatch of hospital emergency personnel. Personnel may be present on or in the vicinity of the former range due to nearby ranching activity. Sandy soil found in some range areas may make OE recovery difficult. A moderate vegetation growth on range makes target and OE detection difficult. Vegetation removal may be necessary prior to future detection/remediation activities.

9. SCHEDULED SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only